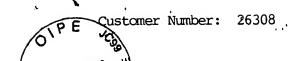
**PATENT** Ctotomer No.: 26308 IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE Docket No.: 9448.17205-CIP DIV application of: Mark A. Reiley Examiner: David Isabella Serial No.: 10/615,727 Group Art Unit: 3738 Filed: 9 July 2003 For: Facet Arthroplasty Devices and Methods Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment **Commissioner for Patents** RECEIVED PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 AUG 1 3 2003 **TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700 AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL** Transmitted herewith is an amendment for this application. 1. **STATUS** 2. Applicant is [X] a small entity 26308 other than a small entity. PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8(a))** I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United State Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed as follows: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Julie A. Wolf

Date:

8/1/2003

Type or print name of person mailing paper



Patent

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Mark A. Reiley

Examiner: David Isabella

Serial No: 10/615,727

Group Art Unit: 3738

Filed: July 9, 2003

For: Facet Arthroplasty Devices and Methods

COMMUNICATION REGARDING PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

AUG 1 3 2003

Hon. Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700** 

Sir:

This Communication Regarding Preliminary Amendment is being submitted prior to prosecution on the merits.

## Remarks

New claims 32 and 33, added by the Preliminary Amendment dated July 16, 2003, are copies of claims 10 and 23 in U.S. Patent No. 6,419,703 (copy enclosed). The undersigned attorney inadvertantly omitted this disclosure of the source of the new claim language. This oversight is promptly being cured.

Applicant respectfully directs the Office's attention to MPEP Section 2307, and in particular 2307.06.